

ABSTRACT

AL-IIIIC-161

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(166)

Cumberland, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked)

1902 (new monument set at additional site)

Milestone No. ---(166), north of Cumberland on Valley Ridge about 5250 feet west of the preceding monument No. ---(165) on Shriver Ridge, marks an additional point on Mason and Dixon's West Line about 155 horizontal miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is a very plain dressed Cockeysville marble monument with a low pyramidal top, of the same design and source as 65 other new monuments set during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary west of Sideling Hill. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly set; measures about 10 inches square by about 17 inches high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, and the year 1766 (when this area was preliminarily surveyed) on the east side, and 1902 (when this new site was first monumented) on the west side. No. ---(166) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 37 monuments marking the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, it is also significant symbolically for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Survey No. AL-IIIC-161

Magi No.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 166)

### 2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the west side of Valley Road/T-300, on Valley Ridge

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 9

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Allegany / PA: Bedford

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☐ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☒ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC

☐ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

☒ not applicable

#### STATUS N/A

☐ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

#### PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER: state boundary marker

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/ Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Allegany County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

AL-IIIC-161 entered 6/2/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> additional site ( 2 )

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(166) was a new dressed <sup>with a low pyramidal top</sup> Cockeysville marble monument/when set in 1902 at an additional site on Mason and Dixon's West Line during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in excellent condition, firmly set, unaltered; measures 10 inches square by about 17 inches above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, and the year 1766 (when this area was preliminarily surveyed) on the east side, and 1902 (when this new site was first monumented) on the west side.

The area <sup>sparsely settled at</sup> here is the southern tip of a narrow ridge called Valley Ridge <sup>by the Resurvey</sup> parallel to and at the eastern edge of Wills Mountain, running generally southwest/northeast, and north of the City of Cumberland. The site is within Election District 5 of Allegany County, MD, and Cumberland Valley Township of Bedford, PA; about 5250 feet west of the preceding monument No. ---(165) <sup>about 5 1/2 miles northeast of the city limits of Cumberland</sup> and about at the 155-mile tick on Mason and Dixon's 1768 map (distance from the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their West Line). It is at a point about 400 feet west of Valley Road/T-300 and about 25 feet south of the old pipeline, in a lovely mossy woodland stretch used as a hiking trail. It cannot be seen from any road or pipeline, but <sup>is</sup> easily seen from closeby and is apparently well protected by its obscure site.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill along the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4 1/2 feet long, intended for setting about 1 1/2 feet above ground, with the remaining 3 feet for setting firmly into the ground when possible. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the planes and apex of the top are all clear and intact except for minor chips <sup>northwest and southwest</sup> at the top/corners.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the several styles of new monuments set in 1902 and the Resurvey method of securing these)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
X 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1766/1767 (area surveyed and marked)  
 1902 (new monument set) **BOLDER/ARCHITECT SURVEYORS** Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(166) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This part of the Line was preliminarily surveyed in 1766, marked at irregular intervals with cairns and additional wood posts the following year, and the present site on the Line established and monumented in 1902 with a new Cockeysville marble marker during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 37 markers along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(166) is also significant for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Evitts Creek (Maryland-Pennsylvania-West Virginia), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000UTM reference: zone 17, easting 69520, northing 439927

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE MarylandCOUNTY AlleganySTATE PennsylvaniaCOUNTY Bedford**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

8/2/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

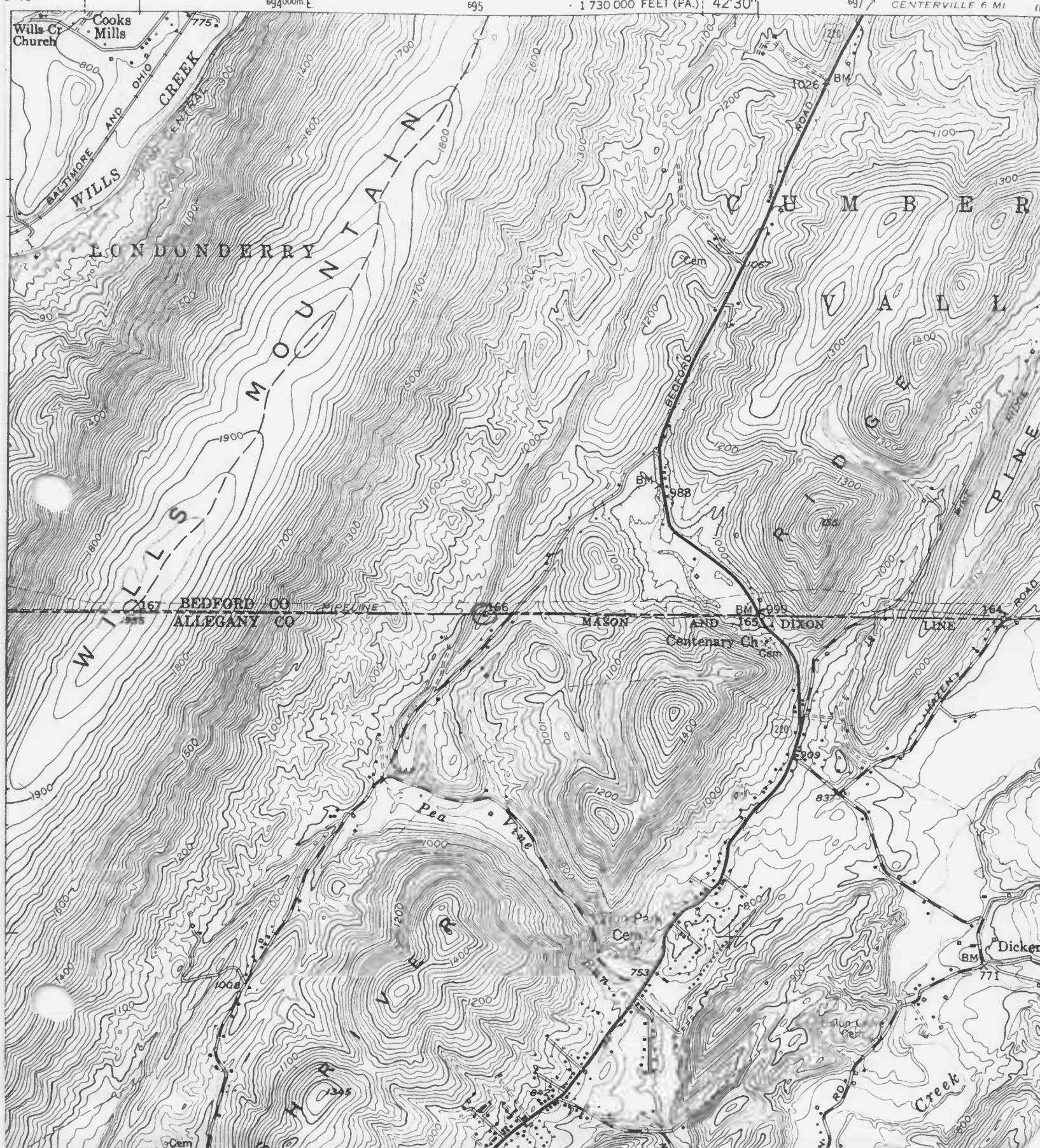
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

1949 PHOTO REV. 1974 SCALE: 1" = 2000'

BEDFORD 22 MI  
CENTERVILLE 6 MI







MH7

AL-MIC-161

MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE; MILESTONE — (166)  
STONE MONUMENT (1902)  
SE CORNER (M/1766)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 8/2/81 (1981.28.21)





MMT

AL-III C-161

MASON DIXON<sup>1</sup> WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (166)  
STONE MONUMENT (1902)

NW CORNER (P/1902)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 8/2/81 (1981.28 23)